



LAKE COUNTY BRANCH NAACP

P.O. BOX 744

PAINESVILLE, OHIO 44077

"Protecting The Rights Of All Americans"

October 14, 2014

Ms. Marlene Dortch

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Given the significant benefits that expanding modern, high-speed Internet service will have in northeast Ohio, the Lake County NAACP offers its support for the merger of AT&T and DIRECTV. We take this step as a result of the clear promises that these two companies have made to expand their modern, high-speed access throughout the Lake County area and our state. We also ask the Commission to consider the benefits this would have for the community we represent and for whom we work.

Ever since the Lake County NAACP was established, we have worked to provide help where the need is greatest. Our team is made up entirely of volunteers. We advocate for those who need our help and we believe strongly that even a little help goes a long way.

The kind of high-speed Internet service that AT&T and DirecTV have promised to deploy could be tremendously empowering. Fast "always on" Internet connections increasingly can be used to gain access to affordable education, healthcare monitoring, and government services and information – all of which are important here.

To appreciate the full effect that greater access to affordable, high-speed Internet service will have for our efforts, please consider the range of programs that the Lake County NAACP supports. We help where the need is greatest, including working with Lakeland Community College and Mentor Schools to support website development. We also provide employment information for those looking for work – a program that has already shown success in helping recipients find jobs. Finally, we promote community involvement in NAACP efforts, bringing more of the area's diverse talents inside the NAACP umbrella.

(440) 639-1008 • www.lakecountynaacpohio.org

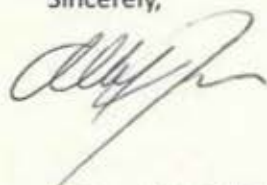
Email: lakecountynaacp@aim.com

We ask the Commission to recognize an important fact about each of these Lake County NAACP programs: The expansion of high-speed Internet service in our community would have a tremendously beneficial effect for each and every one of them.

By approving the merger of DirecTV and AT&T, the Commission would help people throughout Ohio, including thousands in our community, lead better, more empowering lives.

Thank you for considering this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Deacon Albert Jones', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Deacon Albert Jones, President
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